

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

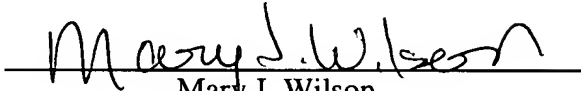
Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent applications and to include the published abstract.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Mary J. Wilson
Reg. No. 32,955

MJW:tat
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100